

SB 900

Gentlemen,

As an antiques dealer and incoming President of the Woodbury Antiques Dealers Association I have been very pleasantly surprised with the results of having an "CT Antiques Trail" sign off the highway. Since the inception of the sign I have had customers who came in as a result of it and also out of town clients who remarked that it made finding the antiques dealers in Woodbury much easier.

Woodbury has been known for decades as the "Antiques Capitol of CT" - not only for the abundance of dealers in one location, but even more importantly for the quality of the antiques and credentials of the dealers in town.

It seems fitting that Woodbury is the first town on the antiques trail as it is entrenched in history itself, with the Glebe House Museum - site of the founding of the first Episcopal Church in the United States, the Curtis House Inn - which is the oldest continuously operating Inn residing in Ct, and a main street full of historical homes dating back to the late 1600's.

The CT Antiques Trail will benefit small businesses in Woodbury- and at a time when the economy seems uncertain at best, this is a wonderful asset to promote tourism.

Having worked on the original Ct Antiques Trail concept through the Woodbury Economic Development Council, I am hopeful that the state will see clearly the benefits of promoting the trail - not only for the antiques dealers but also for the numerous small businesses that will most certainly see an increase in numbers from the tourists that will come to town. Restaurants, museums and nature preserves are just some of the fine attractions that Woodbury has to offer.

As a state wide trail this could have unlimited possibilities.

Respectfully Yours,

Karen Reddington-Hughes
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